President Roca Will Hold the Reins for Six Years.

WHAT SORT OF MAN HE IS

Some Queer Things About the Government of the Country.

CONGRESS AND THE BANKS

(Copyrighted, 1898, by Frank G. Carpenter.) pecial Correspondence of The Evening Star. BUENOS AYRES, November 20, 1898.



I the new president of

new war vessels from Europe in case the settlement should not come off. President Julio A. Roca has long been noted as one of the strongest men in South American politics. He has been president before, has been minister of war and has made himself noted as a general in the Argentine army. It was largely due to him that Patagonia was thrown open to settlement, and he has the reputation of being a great Indian fighter. When he was minister of war, now more than twenty years ago, he led an army to Patagonia against the Indians and conquered them. I have heard it said that the victory was easily won and that the fighting was mere butchery on the part of the Argentines, the so-called savages making no resistance. However this may be, President Roca got great fame from his campaign, and he is today looked upon as the General Grant of the Argentine Repub-lic. Roca has been compared to Grant in character. He is the still strong man of the country, with enough nerve to carry out his ends without regard to who goes down before him. He is a very quiet man. He possesses the golden gift of silence, and believes in the old Spanish proverb which states that "flies will not go into a shut month."

to come. The president is, you know, elect-

straight, well-formed, and though it would be striking anywhere. President Roca is more like an Englishman or an American than an Argentine. You would Imagine him a descendant of Anglo-Saxons rather than of Latins. His face is almost the forehead is high and broad, the the forehead is high and broad, the control of the interest, whereupon he burst out in a control of the interest, whereupon he burst out in a control of the interest, whereupon he burst out in a control of the interest, whereupon he can be a control of the interest, whereupon he can be a control of the interest, whereupon he can be a control of the interest, whereupon he can be a control of the interest, whereupon he can be a control of the interest, whereupon he can be a control of the interest, whereupon he can be a control of the interest, whereupon he can be a control of the interest, whereupon he can be a control of the interest, whereupon he can be a control of the c rather than of Latins. His face is almost fair. The forehead is high and broad, the eyes bright and piercing, the nose large and the under jaw strong. He is simple in his dress and manners and walks about the streets of Buenos Ayres like an ordinary citizen. He has never cultivated the arts of the salon, nor has he pronounced literary tastes, although he is well read in history and keeps posted on political matters. He is more of a statesman and a soldier than a carpet knight, and he has been called the past master of the political science of the Argentine.

Elections in South America. General Roca was chosen president. This

means that he was the strongest man of the small coterie which runs the Argentine Republic. There are no such elections in South America as in the United States. The country is supposed to be a republic and the people to have the right to vote. But the truth is that a few families control everything political, and that the ballot boxes are always stuffed. Elections are

ARGENTINE'S RULER which we shall call "Munyoz," when my friend said: "Why, mayor, Munyoz is dead. Don't you remember we were together last month when the report of his death came

"Oh, yes, I remember," replied the mayor. "But if he is dead that is all the better. He can now make no fuss as to how his vote is cast."

An Overgoverned Country.

This corruption in politics extends throughout the republic. Every province has its political factions, the most of which are connected with the ring in Buenos Ayres and take their cue from it. The government is entirely in the hands of the naernment is entirely in the hands of the native Argentines, who are natural politicians and who work the business for what it is worth. The country is overgoverned. It has all told only 4,000,000 people, of whom one-fifth live at the capital. Still every state has its own senate and house, and its own minor officers. The result is that in a country which has a population about that of the state of Ohio there are, in addition to a horde of federal officers, iffteen senates, fifteen chambers of deputies and fifteen sets of revenue collectors. There are small officials without number, all of whom receive a salary, and most of whom and to this in some way or other, not sanctioned S. November 20, 1898.

WANT TO TELL you something about the new president of the Argentine. He has been in office only a few weeks, but his strong right hand is already felt in every part of the republic. He has been gun a settlement with the Chileans as to the boundary question, and has at the same time ordered on Europe in case the of come off. President ong been noted as one been come off. President of the province a salary, and most of whom receive a salary, and most of whom and to this in some way or other, not sanctioned by law. All of the provinces are in debt, and only a few of them pay their interest. The internal debt of the country now amounts to more than \$100,000,000, and in 1895 the provincial debts, including unpaid interest, amounted to more than \$137,000,000 in gold. At present the city debts foot up more than \$24,000,000 gold, while the country has a national debt of more than \$300,000,000. A large number of the provinces have to be annually assisted by the general government to pay the salaries of their own officials. Roca believes in centralization of power. He spells the word nation with a capital N. and he will make the union of the provinces even stronger than it has been. In the past petty revolutions have occurred in the different provinces. In many of these the national government was not implicated, but it had at times to send its troops out to quell the troubles. President not implicated, but it had at times to send its troops out to quell the troubles. Presi-dent Roca will not tolerate much foolish-ness of this kind, and in such cases will send military governors to take the places of the regular officials until new elections

Congress and the Banks.

The Argentine Republic has a federal congress, which meets at Buenos Ayres. There are two houses, one composed of senators, the other of deputies. Senators must be thirty years of age, must have resided six years in their districts and have annual incomes of \$12,000 each. A deputy may be twenty-five years of age and must have been a citizen for four years. The deputies are elected for four years and the senators for nine years. The president is elected for six years. Members of congress each receive twelve thousand Argentine dollars a year, and the president has a salary of thirty-six thousand dollars. The vice president receives just half as much as the president, and each of the cabinet ministers gets sixteen thousand eight hundred dollars a year.
You sometimes see statements in the

A Stable Government Promised.

Roca's election means that matters will be stable in the Argentine for six years and the president's house stands between. Some of the greatest scandals of the Argentine Re ed for six years, and he reigns that long provided there is no revolution. Roca has the army behind him, and he will not tolerate opposition. He has always been a fighter. He has at the same time been a diplomat, and his cabinet has been chosen diplomat, and his cabinet has been chosen the National Park of the Argentine Republic funds by government officials and this especially in connection with the National Park of the Argentine Republic funds by government officials and this especially in connection with the National Park of the Argentine Republic funds by government of the public f erate opposition. He has always been a fighter. He has at the same time been a diplomat, and his cabinet has been chosen with the idea of harmonizing the factions. He has the confidence of the foreign capitalists, who believe that he will maintain peace, and peace in the Argentine means progress.

Str. 600 years of the foreign the property of the National Bank of the Argentine, which failed for millions. This bank was largely political, and a word from a prominent official would cause it to pay out money to almost any one. Congressmen made no bones of levying upon it for their support. I heard of one deputy who borrowed President Roca is now fifty-five years of age. He comes of a good family, being a million dollars from the bank and with this built a palace at Belgrano, one of the age. He comes of a good family, being a native of the province of Tucuman in the northern part of the republic. He is a straight, well-formed, broad-shouldered with a face that would not look forwith a face that would not look

> rage, saying:
> "I have no money, I tell you. I don't expect to have any, and I want to know right here, and now, whether you expect me to fight the battles of your bank in congress and then pay back the money I get from it just as other people do?" At last accounts that million dollars and accumu lated interest was still outstanding and it will probably outstand until the end of time.

Asked for \$6,000, Got \$60,000.

Another instance showing the looseness of the business methods of the bank at this time was in the case of an irresponsible army officer of Cordoba, who wanted to borrow \$6,000 to build a house. He knew Celman, who was then president of the Argentine, and at his request the president gave him a note to the bank officials, but through a misunderstanding as to the amount wanted asked the bank to lend



VESTIBULE IN PRESIDENT'S HOME (ARGENTINE).

held on Sundays in the porches of the churches. Outside the church door there are three or four tables, about which sits a seedy-looking crowd of men, who are the receivers of the election. The ballots are paper and are dropped through slits in the boxes. Many of the voters hand their ballots to the receivers and tell them to

him \$60,000 instead of \$6,000. went to the bank, showed the letter and signed an application, which the clerk made out for him, the clerk putting in the \$60,000 as seedy-looking crowd of men, who are the receivers of the election. The ballots are paper and are dropped through slits in the boxes. Many of the voters hand their ballots to the receivers and tell them to vote for them. The same man often votes over and over again, declaring himself to be some other man each time. The receivers recognize the fraud, but as the matter is all cut and dried beforehand they do not object. The better classes recognize it also and do not vote. Buenos Ayres is a city of \$60,000 population. At its last election for senator there were only 2,000 votes cast, whereas, at one vote to each family of five, there were 160,000 possible votes. The electron lists are scanned by the candidates beforehand and added to or taken from as is desired. Not long ago the mayor of Olivera was looking over such a list with a friend of mine. At last he came to a name

take it and lost the whole, and the bank

take it and lost the whole, and the bank was never repaid.

Orders like this for money from public officials were frequently given to this national bank. The standing of the man who was to receive the money was seldom questioned, although his notes were taken in exchange for the cash. I have heard of common peons who thus got money on their worthless notes at the instance of politicians, who took the money and paid them for their trouble.

The bank would accept drafts twenty or thirty times greater than those which its directors authorized. One of the directors was always to be bought by a bribe. False balance sheets were periodically published

was always to be bought by a bribe. False balance sheets were periodically published to deceive the public, and dividends which had never been earned were paid out of the bank capital. The bank at the start had a capital of \$8,000,000. Ten years later this was raised to about \$20,000,000, and it was often wards to research to \$20,000,000. In was afterwards increased to \$50,000,000. In one year its deposits were \$253,000,000, and its loans over \$412,000,000. It had in its vaults \$432,000,000 of national treasury bills, vaults \$432,000,000 of national treasury bills, and it had a savings department in which \$1,400,000 were deposited. The bank went down in the panic, as did other banks of similar character. One was a mortgage bank whose business was lending good money on bad property. The government was also interested in this, and many a swamp lot was used as security for a \$10,000 loan. Today such banks have passed away and the man who makes money out away and the man who makes money out of the government must do so either through bribery or through the getting of

Big Public Jobs. Buenos Ayres has many fine public buildings. It has as fine steamship docks as can be found anywhere in the world, and it is now building a great structure to correspond with our National Capitol at Washington. I do not know the exact amount of money that is to be spent upon this. Some of the public buildings already erected are extravagant beyond description. Take, for instance, the water works. The houses of the rich millionaires of New York have no



Julio A. Roca. The New President of the Argentine.

with stone or pressed brick, but with costly porcelain tiles. Every tile was imported from England. I have seen the tiled walls and roofs of the palaces of the emperor at Peking, but the water works building at Buenos Ayres has a finer covering. The building has cost about as much as our National Library at Washington, and its only use is to hold twelve great iron tanks, through which is filtered the water of Euenos Ayres. The tanks themselves cost \$2,000,000. They are worth seeing. Each of Euchos Ayres. The tanks themselves cost \$2,000,000. They are worth seeing. Each of them weighs 14,000 tons, and they fill the great building from floor to mansard. The water flows in from the river through pipes, so large that they can carry 20,000,000 gal-lons in twenty-four hours. The tanks will hold 15,000 gallons at one time, but a continuous stream of water is filtering through thuous stream of water is filtering through them, so that they contain much more than this amount in a day. It was charged that there was a big job in this building, and that the government officials who secured the contract were able to put in the neigh-borhood of \$1,000,000 into their own pockets.

Jobbery in Railways.

There has also been considerable jobbery papers of the United States that there is a close telephonic connection between our national capital and Wall street. The Argentine congressman is not troubled by having to telephone. The houses of constitution of the control of th in government railroads, I am told, and, inshould be dividends. The lines are rapidly passing into the hands of the English. Those which are still controlled by the govrnment have such poor rolling stock that the private companies will not allow government cars to pass over their rails. They prefer to transship. Appointments on the government railways are commonly made without regard to efficiency or previous experience. Politicians after a job apply for the places. One prominent man recently asked to be made assistant manager of the Central Argentine system. He was questioned as to his experience. He replied that he knew all about the railroad, for he had traveled over it as a passenger several times.

The government lines are generally in bad condition. All sorts of jokes are made concerning them, a common charge being that they should put cow catchers on the rear of the trains to keep the cattle from running over them. The private lines, on the other hand, make money. They are well managed and economically run.

The Matter of Justice.

Theoretically the judicial system of the Argentine Republic is a beautiful one. There is a supreme court of five judges, which is also a court of appeal. There is an attorney general, who is supposed to bring criminals to the bar, and there are a number of inferior and local courts. According to the constitution trial by jury must be given in criminal cases, and each state has its own judicial system. In 1895 4,500 criminal cases were tried in Buenos Ayres, and there were during this year 14,000 arrests for breaches of the peace. You find policemen on every corner in the Argentine capital. They are well dressed, carrying swords, with which they are ready to cut down any one who resists them.

On opera nights a company of mounted police upon prancing steeds guards the streets leading to the opera house, and gen-erally you will find that order in Buenos erally you will find that order in Buenos Ayres is as well kept as in any city of the world. The matter of a police appoint-ment, however, is one of political influence, and the police are very careful whom they arrest. One of the distinguidos or upper class of young men may get as drunk as he pleases and it is rare that he will be arrested, while a poor Italian or Spaniard will be quickly taken to jail. In the courts the rich stand a much better chance than the poor. There are, of course, some just the poor. There are, of course, some just judges, but the man who will accept a bribe is in the majority. Prominent Argentines are awarded the preference in the courts where the matter of right is at all equally balanced, and as a rule the man who sees the judge first has the best chance of a decision in his favor. There is no lack of lawyers, for the young Argentines of good families as a rule adopt the law as a profession, many of them not expecting to practice, but only to have the title of doctor before their names. There are some that are very good at the law as a profession, where the content is the same that are very good at the law as a profession. title of doctor before their names. There are some that are very good at the law and many have large incomes from this source. It Was All in the Signature.

Speaking of the morality of high Argentine officials, I heard the other day a story of President Celman in connection with the national bank, of which I have already written. The influence of the president was such that a note from him would usually result in the holder getting the loan. The president was overwhelmed with such requests, some coming from men whose ill-will he could not afford to have. He never refused to grant such favors. He would rerefused to grant such favors. He would receive the men cordially, and tell them they
could have the money. He would even
write a letter to the directors of the bank,
saying: "I know this man is all right, and
I wish you could grant him the loan." He
would sign such a letter, and the man
would go at once to the bank, and be surresed to find it refused. The truth was prised to find it refused. The truth was that President Celman had an understand-ing with the directors of the bank as to his ing with the directors of the bank as to his signature, according as certain curves were made this way or that. If the final "n." for instance, was elongated into a scrawl, it meant that the man was to have the money, whereas, if it was cut off short, the directors would know that the president meant, "I am just writing this letter to get rid of the man, and it would be a favor to me if you would refuse him."

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

"He died of a complication of diseases,

"No. He had only one doctor."-Life.

How Ships Often Make Large Sums for Their Owners.

SOME FAMOUS CASES ON RECORD

Season Has Been a Lucky One for Wrecking Companies.

ASSESSING THE DAMAGES

Written for The Evening Star. HE SOVEREIGN, A grounded on Jersey Beach in 1832. She was loaded with sil-ver specie, and

large four-master ver specie, and when the master saw she would go to pieces he had the heads knocked out of the barrels and told the men to help themselves to the coin. Their greediness cost their lives, for when

they jumped for the shore the silver in their pockets pulled them down and drowned them. Then the wily master, who had swum ashore without any of the spoil, colected the bodies, emptied the pockets and thus saved the most valuable part of his cargo. The story is a simple one, but not so the question of who was entitled to the salvage, which perplexed a generation of

Salvage-the money paid for rescuing ships and their cargoes—is probably the most difficult question to decide equitably that comes before courts. The decisions are remarkable and altogether startling in their variety to a layman with an idea of infallibility of law courts, and even the general principles remain unsettled. For instance, it is held by one judge that

salvage should be paid only when a ship is saved from certain danger; another says that any assistance in getting a disabled ship to port entitles to salvage rather than the less expensive towage.

The percentage allowed to salvors rises from 10 to 50, and in some cases, where the value of the wreck was small and the service arduous, practically the whole of

the rescued cargo and the ship are made over to the salvors.

A Celebrated Case.

Something like this happened last spring in the celebrated case of the Lamington, a British steamship that stranded on the Long Island coast. Tugs pulled her off and she was finally sold in New York, a badly battered wreck, for \$17,500. The work of rescue was so arduous that the district court gave the entire ship and cargo to her salvors, but the court of appeals decided that in every case there should be a margin for the owner of a lost ship, and awarded to nor cent

ship, and awarded 50 per cent. In the old days before steamships and wrecking tugs the only salvage that was made was by resching cargoes either before or after the ship went to pieces or sunk. There was little towing of disabled vessels, and when a ship once went ashore she was doomed, and raising a wreck was of course dreamed of no more than glueing one together after she broke up. Now-adays the saving of wrecks is a business, and along our seacoasts and on the waters and along our seacoasts and on the waters of our great lakes and rivers wrecking companies are ready to undertake to raise or pull anything from a rowboat to a man-of-war.

of-war.

The most celebrated salvage case in American history was that of the Thetis, an English war vessel that sank off the Brazilian coast with \$350,000 worth of bullion on board. For months three sloops of war were anchored at the spot and their crews recovered \$750,000 by diving. One-third—that is, \$250,000—was divided as salvage between the officers and men. vage between the officers and men.

Awarding Salvage. The courts, in awarding salvage, do not

make a distinction between work done by wrecking companies and that of a passing ship which happens to be in the neighborhood of a wreck and assists in bringing it to port. But, broadly speaking, all cases where a ship has been saved as well as its cargo may be classed under one of these two heads. As many more vessels are wrecked by being driven on shore, the num-ber of instances of salvage by wrecking companies is greater than where a ship is disabled at sea and towed to port by a passing steamer, though as a rule the profits in the latter case are greater in proportion to the work done. An instance of handsome profits made in this way was the rescue of the T. F. Oakes, a large ship bound for New York from Hong Kong. Her crew got ill with the scurvy, and when she was 300 miles from port there was nobody aboard to work the ship. She asked the steamship Kasbek for assistance, and for towing her this short distance the courts allowed \$19,500 salvage. It is not usual for a vessel to make a contract before aiding another in distress, but sometimes masters try to drive sharp bargains, as the captain try to drive sharp bargains, as the captain of the Sirtus was obliged to make when his vessel broke her propeller and part of her shaft and was anchored in a dangerous position off the coast of Lower California. His ship and cargo were valued at about \$175,000 and he agreed to pay \$20,000 to get her towed by the only vessel at hand to a place of safety. The court decided that \$8,000 was enough for the service. No contracts for exorbitant salvage are binding. This rule never changes. When the regular wrecking boats undertake to save a ship a contract is usually made beforehand and this is less likely to be a contract under compulsion because there are several der compulsion because there are several companies to bargain with, but not long ago the ship Jessamene ran on the rocks near the Golden Gate and the master near the Golden Gate and the master agreed to pay the wrecking tug Relief \$12,-000 for pulling her off. The work was done, but the courts called the sum excessive and awarded \$5,000. Likewise when the tugs Alert, Relief and Release, maintained at an expense of \$7,500 per month, saved the Don Carlos, a ship worth, cargo and all, about \$53,000, the contract called for \$12,000, but only \$5,500 was allowed. This seems like a fairly good price for three hours' work. Sailors Get a Share.

The salvage that a ship makes does not all go to the owners, and for a sailor that is the most interesting thing about it. Indeed, salvage is the sailor's dream and a derelict his gold mine. When the Sirius, mentioned above, was saved, the rescuing crew got \$4,250 and the master \$2,500. The division was made, as is usual, according to wages and service in the salving. La Champagne, which was towed into Halifax last March

and service in the salving. La Champagne, which was towed into Halifax last March by the Roman, paid £15,000 pounds salvage, and the owners of the Roman got £12,000 of this, the master £1,000, and £2,000 were divided among the fifty three members of the crew.

The wrecking com and have special contracts with their cows and as a rule there is only a slight increase in pay for successful work.

The second case in the amount of salvage and the first in valse in property saved is that of the America in er St. Paul, which was aground off the reset of the the weeking company shall rece at but \$165,000 for its eleven days' work.

A lucky bit of wrke was the finding of L'Amerique, a stems to that had been abandoned without any real cause. Her value was about \$1,00,000, and \$90,000, was awarded for a few hours' towing. The first

value was about \$100,000, and \$90,000 was awarded for a few bours' towing. The first award was \$150,000. A similar case was that of the Glengyle, which was abandoned and brought to London by her salvors. They got fi9,500. La France, which towed the Veendam for three days until she could repair her shaft, was awarded \$8,500, and the tug that towed the disabled Charles Wetmore for one night and got her over the bar of the Columbia river was paid \$20,000. This was dangerous work, however, and the tug was nearly swamped. The tug's crew got \$5,000.

tug was nearly swamped. The tug's crew got \$5,000.

The tug that found the derelict Calvin S. Edwards, made \$675, a nice thing out of one night's work, and perhaps the lucklest of all was the tug that recently picked up five scows in the Hagiem river and in less than an hour made \$750. A good deaf of salvage money has been made on the Florida coast, and the best known case is

PROFIT IN SALVAGE that of the Tregurno, when the crew of the rescuing vessel were especially allowed 22% per cent of \$200,000 for the gallant work rescuing vessel were especially allowed 22½ per cent of \$200,000 for the gallant work they did during twenty-five days.

When the Aguan went to pieces with \$9,500 in specie on board, her crew of seven sailors got \$1,000 for helping to save the

Got Fifty Per Cent. A profitable salvage work was done by

the wrecking company who went to South America and brought back the wrecked Alert. Her value was \$50,000, and they got half of it. The three tugs ... at pulled the Sir William Armstrong out of six or eight feet of sand got 20 per cent of the value of the ship and 40 per cent of that of her cargo of cotton. The recent storm on the Atlantic coast

has given the wreckers more work than they ever before had at one time. The northern coast of Long Island is studded with wrecks. A number of valuable ships have been saved, and the Fairfax, loaded with cotton, aground on the Sow and Pigs, will make a very profitable bit of salvage if she is floated.

The late war has not been so productive of salvage to wreckers as it would have been had Admiral Cervera been more con-siderate in grounding his ships, but there will be a handsome profit if the Reina Mercedes is successfully raised, as the govern-ment has contracted to pay an American ment has contracted to pay an American company \$75,000 for the work. The casting off of the Maria Teresa meant a loss of \$100,000 in bonuses to the wrecking companies. The Swedish company that wanted to make salvage out of the Spanish ships is now inspecting the Cristobal Colom, but experts say that the ship cannot be raised. It is not known what the Hong Kong wrecking company that raised the Spanish gunboats in Manila will get as salvage, but it ought to make a handsome thing

Risky and Uncertain.

The profits in salvage are large, and out of the 125 important salvage cases passed on by United States courts up to 1897, the salvage in 80 was between 25 and 75 per cent of the value of the property saved. But making salvage is a very risky as well as uncertain matter, and nearly every case is one of "no cure no pay," so that when there is a profit it ought to be a big one. The smaller the amount saved the larger The smaller the amount saved the larger the percentage of salvage is the rule, and some of the highest proportions of salvage were in the case of the cargo of the Alabamanian, wrecked in 1839, 78 per cent, and for rescuing \$6,740 worth of whale oil thrown upon one of the Fiji islands, 85 per cent.

It is impossible to estimate the amount of salvage that is paid in one year by wrecked vessels, but it is enormous. During the past six months upward of \$200,000 was awarded by the United States courts, and this represents but a small proportion of the salvage paid in this country alone in that time, as the great majority of salvage cases are settled by the board of under-writers of the insurance companies, on which all salvage ultimately falls, and never reach the courts.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR NOTES

The topic for tomorrow is "Truths Taught by Christmas," and the Rev. J. R. Miller in writing on the topic says: "The shepherds were keeping watch over their flocks when the angel came. If we would have angels come to us, we must stay at our post of duty, no matter how lowly it is. Think what the shepherds would have missed in any of them had stayed at home that night! We do not know what we miss wher we indolently or selfishly stay away from any duty.

"It seems strange to us that the shepherds were afraid. God's angels come to us sometimes in strange guise-sickness, sorrow, trouble-but never is there anything to dread in the messenger that God sends. It was a wonderful comfort that the angel used to quiet the fear of the shepherds. He told them that the Christ had come. Really it is always so-in every fear of ours Christ is velled.
"The message that fell from the lips of

the angel that night was the most wonderful piece of good news ever spoken into this world's air. What favored angel was it who was honored in being the bearer of this first announcement of the coming of the long promised Redeemer?

enses of the shepherds, and so He told them how they should learn that His word was true. There was a sign—they would find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying, not in a royal cradle, but in a lowly manger Strange mark surely of heavenly kingship! We may notice, too, that the marks and authentications of the Messiah were tokens of poverty and hu-What mockeries are king's crowns in comparison with the glory of this Babe lying in the manger!"

At a recent business meeting of the in-termediate society of the Vermont Avenue Christian Church the following officers were elected: President, W. Frank Summy; vice president, Lucy G. Myers; secretary, Kenneth M. Johns; treasurer, C. R. K. Sweetman; corresponding secretary Ada F. Miller; pianist, Grace Spicel; chorister, Edward B. Keeling; assistant, W. F. Summy; chairman lookout committee, Herbert my; chairman lookout committee, Herbert C. Parker; social, Frank N. Jones; prayer meeting, Nellie R. Orcherd; temperance, Phii Kemon; missionary, W. S. K. Orton; calling, Alice V. Van Arsdale; music, Madge E. Yeage.

The Gunton Temple Y. P. S. C. E. gave a "book social" last Tuesday evening—so called by reason of the admission price, which was a book, to provide a library for the almshouse. The principal feature of the entertainment was "The Country

School," represented by a number of the young people.

The Metropolitan A. M. E. Junior Endeavor Society has just elected the following officers: President, Miss Eunice E. Brooke; secretary, Miss Mabel Hopkins; treasurer, Miss Eleze Clore; chairman flower mission committee, Miss Mamie E. Chase; missionary, Miss Fannie Reeves; social Miss Laure Chafts These tunlors chase; missionary, Mass Fannie Reeves; so-cial, Miss Laura Charite. These juniors will have a special Christmas service to-morrow with an address by the Rev. J. A. Johnson. At 7:30 in the evening there will be a song service by the senior choir.
The intermediates of First Congregational Church recently gave a "fad social," with a short program and refreshments. have a Christmas prayer meeting at 6:30 tomorrow morning. Their Sunday school will have its regular Christmas entertainment next Tuesday evening.

The True Cause.

Visiting Englishman-"How do you account for this policy of expansion?" Mr. Starzenstripes—"Well, you see, we got hot. Heat always expands."

A Slight Hitch.

From the Philadelphia North American. "I see foot ball has been introduced into Cuba." "But I thought we were going to pacify the island."

Fifty-Two Christmas Gifts a Year. A Christmas present that comes not once

a year, but fifty-two times, is a present well worth receiving, and well worth giving. Such a present is supplied by a subscription to the Saturday Star. It comes every week, and each time brings a wealth of good things. It costs but a dollar, and yet it gives vastly more pleasure than a much greater sum could give if expended in any other possible way. Order it sent to some out-of-town friend, and you may rest assured that one, at least, of your Christmas gifts will be thoroughly appreciated many times. It will be Christmas once a week to the fortunate recipient.

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For Columbus, Toledo and Detroit, 12:05 night.

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For Baltimore, week days, 5:00, 6:30, x7:05, x7:16, x7:30, x8:00, 8:30, x9:30, x10:00 a.m.; 12:05 m., 12:15, x1:15, x2:00, x3:30, x3:35, x4:30, x3:35, x5:35, x5:3 Schedule in effect Describer 18 1848.

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2:20 P.M. DAILY—For Gordonsville, Charlottesville, Staunton and for Richmond daily, except Sunday.

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Schedule in effect December 4, 1898.

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8:12 A.M.—Daily.—Local for Danville, Charlotte and way stations Connects at Manassas for Strasburg and Harrisonburg daily, and at Lynchburg with the Norfolk and Western daily in the Norfolk and Washington to Jacksonville, uniting at Sallsbary with Sleeper for Asheville and Hor Springs. N. C.; Kaoxville, Chattanooga and Memphis. Tona., and at Charlotte with Sleeper for Augusta. Sleeper New York to New Orleans, uniting at Charlotte with Sleeper for Atlanta. Connects at Lynchburg with C. & O. for Lexington daily except Sunday, and Natural Bridge daily. Solid train Washington to New Orleans without change. Dinage Car service. Sunset Personally Conducted Tourist Excursion Sleeper on this train every Wednesday and Saturday to San Francisco without change. 4:01 P.M.—Local for Front Royal. Strasburg and Bartisonburg, daily except Sunday.

4:51 P.M.—Daily.—Local for Charlottesville. 10:45 P.M.—Daily.—WaSHINGTON AND SOUTHWESTERN VESTIBULI D LIMITED, composed of Pollman Vestibuled Sleepers, Dining Cars and Day Conches. Sleepers New York to Nashville. Tenn., via Asheville, Knoxville and Chattanooga; New York: to Tampa, via Charlotte, Columbia, Savannah and Jacksonville; New York to Nashville, Tenn., via Asheville, Knoxville and Chattanooga; New York: to Tampa, via Charlotte, Columbia, Savannah and Jacksonville; New York soft Washington to Augusta, with connection for Alken, and New York to New Orleans, via Atlanta. Southern Railway Dining Car Greenshor, Vestibuled Day Conch Washington to Augusta, with connection for Alken, and Montgomery. Vestibu

day, and 9:05 p.m. daily and 8:30 a.m. daily from Charlotteaville.

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-Farlor and Diving Cars Hair-sburg to Pittsburg.

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-Farlor and Diving Cars Hair-sburg to Pittsburg.

10:56 A.M. PENNSYLVANIA LIMITED.—Pullman Sieep.og. Diving. Smoking and observation Cars Harrisburg to Cheago, Cincinnait, Indianapolia, St. Louis, Gieveland and Toledo. Buffet Parlor Car to Harrisburg.

10:59 A.M. FAST LANE.—Pullman Buffet Parlor Car to Harrisburg.

10:59 A.M. FAST LANE.—Pullman Buffet Parlor Car to Harrisburg.

10:50 P.M. CHAGO. AND ST. LOUIS EXPRESS.—Sl-seping Cardo. And Sheeping and Diving Cars Harrisburg.

10:50 P.M. CHAGO. AND ST. LOUIS EXPRESS.—Sl-seping Cardo. And Diving Cars Harrisburg.

10:50 P.M. WESTERN EXPRESS.—Pullman Sieeping Car to Pittsburg and Chicago.

10:50 P.M. SOUTHWESTERN EXPRESS.—Pullman Sieeping Cars Washington to Pittsburg and Harrisburg to St. Louis, Cleveland and Cincinnait. Diving Cars.

10:40 P.M. PACIFIC EXPRESS.—Pullman Sieeping Car to Pittsburg.

10:50 A.M. for Kane. Canandaigua, Rochester and Niagara Falls daily, except Saurday.

10:50 A.M. for Elmira and Renove daily, except Saurday.

10:50 A.M. for Williamsport, Rochester, Eric, Buffalo and Miagara Falls daily, except Saurday, with Sieeping Car Washington to Rochester. Buffalo and Miagara Falls daily. except Saurday.

10:60 P.M. for Eric, Canandaigua, Rochester, Buffalo and Miagara Falls and Pullman Sieeping Car Washington to Rochester. Buffalo and Miagara Falls and Pullman Sieeping Car Washington to Rochester.

10:40 P.M. for Eric, Canandaigua, Rochester, Buffalo and Miagara Falls and Pullman Sieeping Car Washington to Rochester Saurday.

10:50 A.M. for Eric, Canandaigua, Rochester, Buffalo and Miagara Falls and Pullman Sieeping Car Washington to Rochester.

10:40 P.M. for Eric, Canandaigua, Rochester, Buffalo and Miagara Falls and Pullman Sieeping Car Washington to Rochester, Buffalo and Miagara Falls on Pullman Sieeping Car.

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For Alexandria, week days—6:30, 7:04, x7:35, 8:00, 8:35, 8:50, 9:25, 10:30, 11:90, 11:45 a.m., x12:05, 12:20, 1 14, 1:45, x2:04, 2:40, 3:25, x8:50, x4:15, 4:50, 5:06, x5:20, 5:40, x6:04, 6:30, 7:06, 8:14:15, 4:50, 5:06, 0:46, 10:30, 11:15 a.m., 12:00 noon, 12:45, 1:30, 2:15, 3:00, 3:45, 4:30, 5:15, 6:00, 6:45, 7:30 8:15, 9:00, 10:00, 11:20 and 11:50 p.m.